(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में डिब्बा-बंद एल.पी.जी. की खपत निम्नलिखित है:—

(आंकड़े मी.टन.में)

वर्ष	पैक्ड एल.पी.जी. की खपत
1989-90	219824
1990-91	234565
1991-92	276895

Proposal to increase toe price of cooking gas

1121. SHRI SHANTI TYAG1: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the price of cooking gas; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal at present.

Proposal to allow multinationals to market petroleum products

1122. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow multinationals to market petroleum *products* under their own brand names in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) There is no bar on the use of brand names for sale in the country under the general policy of the Government. This applies also to petroleum products decanalised for imports.

Contract Awarded to the British Gas PLC

1123. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a contract for laying a 20 kilometer line to supply natural gas to industrial and domestic consumers in Bombay has been awarded to the British Gas PLC;

(b) Whether it is also a fact that the British Gas was not a participant in the tender invited for the purpose by the Gas Authority of India; and

(c) what are the details of the modalities for the joint venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) GAIL have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with British Gas to set up a joint venture company to execute the Bombay City Gas Distribution project. According to the MOU, both companies will hold 35% equity in the joint venture.

Subsidy on Kerosene Oil

1124. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to withdraw subsidy on kerosene oil,

(b) if not, whether Government are aware that subsidy does not reach the real poor as kerosene oil is distributed through ration card; and

(c) how much amount has been spent as subsidy during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) The benefit of subsidy reaches